

**THE SOCCI LAW FIRM**  
**P.O. Box 14051**  
**Washington, D.C. 20044**  
**(202) 262-5843 laurence.socci@soccilawfirm.com**

Laurence L. Socci, Esq.  
District of Columbia Bar  
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Bar

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

June 4, 2020

Attorney General William P. Barr  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Re: Request for DOJ Intervention

Dear Attorney General Barr:

I represent the Small Business in Transportation Coalition (“SBTC”), a 501(c)(6) organization that represents small businesses in the trucking industry, including thousands of small trucking companies. As you may know, small trucking companies have been hit especially hard over the past few months and we have come to the point where they desperately need DOJ intervention.

As you know, there was a major protest in the District of Columbia by small trucking companies over the price gouging and anticompetitive behavior of large brokerages against small trucking companies. We believe this price gouging and anticompetitive behavior is a stemming from brokerages using the COVID-19 crisis to take advantage of small trucking companies who are desperate for work. SBTC led the charge to bring this anticompetitive behavior to the attention of the Department of Transportation, the USDOT Office of Inspector General, the U.S. DOJ and the White House. Unfortunately, none of those organizations have taken any action to date on this crisis.

Now, to add insult to injury, Jim Mullen, the Acting Administrator of FMCSA claims that he has received no complaints regarding big brokers’ violation of Federal transparency regulations codified at 49 CFR 371.3. SBTC has filed such a complaint in the form of a petition for rulemaking, has passed on complaints it has received directly to Mullen, and has been copied on complaints carriers have filed with Mullen directly so we find this disturbing.

Truckers are now facing an additional crisis. They are being attacked by protestors and rioters around the country. They are being physically pulled from their trucks and beaten. They are being stopped from doing their jobs and put in danger on a daily basis. The SBTC petitioned the Secretary of Transportation to preempt state laws on commercial motor vehicle safety and allow truck drivers to carry their legally licensed firearms with them as they travel across the country in areas that are dangerous to their lives yet the petition was denied.

The SBTC is asking for your assistance. As you know, 18 U.S.C. Section 906(A) – Interstate Transportation of Firearms states as follows:

*Notwithstanding any other provision of the law or any rule or regulation of a State or any political subdivision thereof, any person who is not otherwise prohibited by this chapter from transporting, shipping or receiving a firearm shall be entitled to transport a firearm for any lawful purpose from any place where he may*

*lawfully possess and carry such firearm to any other place where he may lawfully possess and carry such firearm if, during such transportation the firearm is unloaded, and neither the firearm nor any ammunition being transported is readily accessible or is directly accessible from the passenger compartment of such transporting vehicle .Provided, that in the case of a vehicle without a compartment separate from the driver's compartment the firearm or ammunition shall be contained in a locked container other than the glove compartment or console.*

The SBTC is asking you to use the power of the Department of Justice to suspend the prosecution of any commercial truck driver who is carrying a licensed firearm while travelling on an interstate highway and arrange for an executive order from the President pursuant to the Commerce Clause, which prohibits states from interfering with interstate commerce and specifically exempts America's 3.5 million endangered interstate truckers from state and local gun laws thus affirming their Second Amendment rights.

Finally, for your review, I am enclosing copies of the following documentation which SBTC Executive Director James Lamb sent recently to various Federal officials relating to the broker antitrust issue discussed above:

1. A formal complaint filed with the USDOJ Antitrust Division dated April 28, 2020.
2. A Petition for Broker Rulemaking under 49 CFR Part 371 to Secretary Elaine Chao.
3. A letter to Present Donald J. Trump regarding the recent trucker protest.
4. A letter to White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows regarding SBTC's antitrust complaint.
5. Comments to Docket FMCSA-2020-0130 regarding SBTC's intermediary bond exemption application.

The SBTC stands ready to answer any questions you may have or to provide any additional information you may need.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Laurence L. Socci, Esq.

Cc: James Lamb, Executive Director SBTC